Queen Victoria

→ William died issueless in 1837.

→ The daughter of William's younger brother Edward, Duke of Kent, succeeded William under the name of Queen Victoria.

→ Queen Victoria ruled for about 64 years from 1837 to 1901.

→ When Queen Victoria ascended the throne she was only 18 years old.

→ In 1840, Queen Victoria married a German Prince, Prince Albert.

→ During the reign of Queen, the 2nd Reform Act 1867, the Secret Ballot Act, 1872 and the 3rd Reform Act 1884 were passed.

→ Queen Victoria's reign is known as a 'Glorious Age' in history.

→ In 1911, the demand of pay for the members of Parliament was met.

→ In 1818, Corn Laws were passed in order to impose heavy duty on the import of corns.

→ The Corn Laws were repealed in 1846 by Robert Peel, the then PM.

→ In 1845, potato crop failed in Ireland.

The Chartist Movement

Emergence of the Chartist Movement:- The movement was started in 1837 to change their socio-economic conditions by securing political rights. During the next 11 years, it created a great commotion. Its prominent leaders were Lovett, Feargus O'Connor etc.

Scanned with CamScanner

Causes of The Rise of the Chartist Movement:-

1) Emergence of The Industrial Revolution:- → Unemployment and miserable condition of farmers
2) Passage of The Corn Laws:- food prices high
3) Passage of The Poor laws:- The relief had been stopped by passing The Reform Act in 1834.
4) No representation in the Parliament:- The First Reform Act, 1832 which ignored the peasants, labourers and the artisans.

Demands of the Chartist Movement:- The leadership prepared a ~~huge~~ charter of demands which was named as The 'Peoples' Charter'.

1) Universal franchise for all the age of 21.
2) Secret Ballot system
3) Waving off the condition of property for the membership of the Parliament.
4) Salary of Parliamentarians.
5) Constituencies should have equal population.
6) Parliament should be elected every year.

End of the Chartist Movement:-

→ The govt resorted to firing at revolutionaries while their leaders were sent to jail in 1839.

→ In 1848, The Chartists also got a chance to revive their movement but the army arrested their leaders. The chartists dispersed and gradually the Chartist Movement died off.

Causes of the failure of the Movement:-

1) Unreasonable means to achieve its aims:- People did not like the policy of riots and strikes.

Scanned with CamScanner

2) Decrease in Unemployment:- with the opening of new factories and introduction of railways.

3) Repeal of the Corn Laws:- by the Govt. of its own accord in 1846.

4) Passage of Laws by the Parliament:- itself passed many laws for the weal and welfare of the labourers and the artisans.

5) Lack of ideal leadership:-

6) Lack of political strength:- The Movement was launched by the lower class and weaker sections of the people.

Importance of the Chartist Movement:-

Although the Chartist Movement met with a failure yet most of its demands had to be accepted by the Parliamet itself at one time or the other.

- → The Secret Ballot Act, 1872.
- → Membership of the Parliament in 1885.
- → Uniform Constituencies in 1885.
- → Salary of the Parliamentarians in 1911.
- → Universal Franchise in 1918.
- → withdrawl of Corn Laws in 1846
- → Govt itself passed many acts for the welfare of general people.

SIR ROBERT PEEL, 1788-1850

- → Sir Robert Peel was born on 5 Febraury, 1788.
- → In 1829, Peel sacked all inefficient police men from the London Police.
- → Peel twice remained as the PM of England, first in 1834 for a few months and then from 1841 to 1846.

Scanned with CamScanner

→ In July 1845, the food crops suffered a lot due to heavy rains.
→ Daniel O'Connel, the leader of the Catholic Emancipation Movement, became the leader of the Young Ireland Association and wanted to get freedom for the Irish Parliament.
→ In 1846, Peel introduced the Catholic Bill to bring about peace in Ireland.
→ On June 26, 1846, the Catholic Bill failed by 78 votes and thus Peel had to resign.
→ Peel died of a fall from the horseback on July 12, 1850.
→ In 1841 elections, the Tory Party got 367 seats while the Whigs could muster only 286 seats.

Early Career of Sir Robert Peel :-

→ Most famous PM in the early part of Queen Victoria's reign.
→ He was a son of a rich dealer in cotton of Lancashire.
→ Peel got his education at Harrow and at the famous College of Oxford.
→ He was the first student to stand first in all subjects.
→ He became a deputy minister.
→ PM Lord Liverpool appointed him the Chief Secretary of Ireland in 1812 to 1818.
→ Home Secretary of England 1822-30.
→ PM for sometimes in 1834.
→ PM from 1841 - 1846.

Peel as a Home Secretary :- (1822-1830)

1) Reform in the Penal Code :- There were 160 crimes which were called 'Felonies' and for which Capital punishment was awarded. Peel removed a number of crimes from the list and after sometime 4 crimes were left out.

Scanned with CamScanner

2) Reform in London Police:- Peel sacked all inefficient police men from the London police in 1829.

3) The Catholic Emancipation Act:- Daniel O'Connel launched a struggle in 1823 to get religious barrier removed. He was elected a member of the Parliament from a county in Ireland called Clare in 1828 but being a Catholic, he was not entitled to sit in the Parliament. This Act facilitated the Catholics to sit in the Parliament and brought an end to the possibilities of a civil war.

Peel as the PM:-

1) Financial Reforms:-

i) Free trade:- Peel lifted many duties from the import of different raw materials needed for the industry.

ii) Incom tax:- Peel imposed income tax at the rate of 7 pence per in the new budget presented by him in 1842. This tax was imposed on persons with an annual income of 150 pounds or more.

iii) Bank Charter Act, 1844:- According to this Charter, the Bank of England was divided into two branches. One branch would act as a commercial bank while the other branch was entrusted with the issue of notes.

2) Social Reforms:-

i) The Mine Act, 1842:- which prohibited the employment of girls, women and boys below the age of 10 years in the mines.

ii) The Factory Act, 1844:- no child below the age of 6 could be employed in a factory. Only 6 hours

Scanned with CamScanner

for 9-13 years, 8 hours for 13-18.

3) Repeal of the Corn Laws, 1846:-

4) Peel's Irish Policy:- In order to satisfy the Irish people and to resolve the differences between the Catholics and the Protestants Peel increased grant to the Catholic Maynooth College from 9000 to 26000 pounds. Three new colleges were opened.

→ Due to famine in Ireland, people migrated to America and other countries (1841 = 8.3 m and 1851 = 6.6 m).

→ In 1846, Peel introduced Catholic Bill but was rejected and Peel had to resign from the Premiership.

CHARACTER AND ESTIMATE OF PEEL

1- **A great patriot:-** Despite a strong opposition from his own party, he remained determind to repeal the 'Corn Laws' and introduce Irish Coercion Bill.

2) **No orthodox and Conservative:-** When he saw people starving he told his Cabinet overtly, "Corn Laws will have to go."

3) **Above Party Politics:-**

4) **A great organiser:-** He kept some 170 of his colleagues well united. Later on he issued a new election manifesto i.e The Tamworth Manifesto to bring reforms.

5) **A great administrator:-** Gladstone described his ministry as a "perfectly organized administration." Even Cobden ~~once~~ said, "neither the Grand Turk nor a Russian Despot had more power than Peel."

Scanned with CamScanner

6) A great parliamentarian:- As a Home Secretary and then as a PM he did a very important job for the weal and welfare of the people.

Peel as most conservative or Liberal

Conservative Party

- Peel incorporated some changes and renamed the Tory Party as the Conservative Party.
  - → It was against reforms.
  - → It favoured imperialism.
  - → It favoured wars.
  - → It was against religious freedom.
  - → It was against the policy of free trade.

Liberal Party

This party was formed after disbanding the erstwhile Whig party.
- → It favoured reforms.
- → It was against imperialism.
- → It favoured a strong foreign policy.
- → It favoured religious freedom.
- → It favoured the policy of free trade.

⇒ **Peel was the most Liberal among the conservatives:-**

1) Reforms in the Penal Code:-
2) Reform in the London Police:-
3) Support of the Reform Act of 1832:-
4) Reform in the condition of the Mine workers:-
5) Reform in the condition of the Factory workers:-
   The Magistrates were given the power to impose fines so that the factory owners dare not to bypass this law.
6) Repeal of the Corn Laws, 1846:-
7) Catholic Emancipation:-

Scanned with CamScanner

8) Support of the Free Trade Policy:- Like Pitt, he was very much influenced by Adam Smith's book "The Wealth of Nations."

9) Opposition of Imperialism and Wars:- Peel put an end to the war with China Though the treaty of Nanking, finished the Afghan war and established friendly relations with USA and France.

⇒ **Peel was the most conservative of the Liberals:-**

1) Catholic Emancipation in 1827:- Peel opposed it strongly. but later accepted it only to save the country from civil war.

2) Against the Parliamentary Reform Acts:- The Second Reform Act could be passed only after 35 years in 1867. His efforts to put a check on the speed of reforms clearly shows that Peel was by-nature against reforms.

3) Support of the Corn Laws:- He was not ready to listen to any agreement of the Anti-Corn Law league before the potato crop failed in Ireland and Corn produced in England had also suffered a setback.

Scanned with CamScanner

LORD PALMERSTON, 1784-1865

→ Palmerston belonged to the Tory Party in the beginning but later on he joined the Whig Party.
→ In 1840, Palmerston declared a war against China known in history as the 'Opium War', which lasted for about two years.
→ The Opium War ended with the Treaty of Nanking.
→ The Indian Mutiny took place in May, 1857.
→ Abraham Lincoln was elected as the President of America in 1860.

Early Career of Palmerston:-

→ born on October 20, 1784 at Hampshire in Ireland.
→ He was educated at Harrow and Cambridge.
→ elected to the Parliament in 1809.
→ worked as the Secretary of War from 1809 to 1828.
→ The FM of England from 1830-1865.
→ Acted as Home Secretary for a short period in 1835.
→ PM: 1855-1858, 1859-1865

Palmerston as the Foreign Minister:-

1- **Independence of Belgium, 1830-1831:-** By the Treaty of Vienna of 1815, she was attached with Holland. The people of Belgium greatly influenced by the French Revolution, declared themselves free and separated from Holland. Resultantly, Holland invaded Belgium. Palmerston recognized Leopold I as an independent ruler of Belgium.

2- **Problem of Portugal:-** John VI was the ruler of portugal and his son Pedro was the constitutional ruler of Brazil. In 1826 when John VI died, Pedro made his daughter Maria the constitutional ruler of

Scanned with CamScanner

of Portugal but Pedro's younger brother Don Miguel opposed it and declared himself the emperor in 1828. Palmerston favored Queen Maria and in 1834 he recognised Queen Maria as the constitutional ruler of Portugal.

3) **Problem of Spain:-** After the death of King Ferdinand VII in 1833, his daughter (3 years old) Isabella ascended the throne but under the regency of her mother. But Isabella's uncle Don Carlos considered himself to be the ruler. Palmerston was in favor of Constitutional and liberal rule and he recognised Isabella II as the ruler of Spain in 1834 and offered British Soldiers to defeat the Don Carlos.

4) **War with Mehmet Ali:-** was the Viceroy of Egypt and was appointed by the King of Turkey. He rebelled against Sultan Mahmood of Turkey in 1831 under his son Ibrahim who captured Syria. The King of Turkey sought the help of Russia and did not allow Ibrahim to advance beyond Syria.

In 1839, The King of Turkey tried to win back Syria from Mehmet Ali but he was again defeated. Hence, Palmerston in collaboration with Russia, Austria and Prussia forced Mehmet Ali to retreat.

5) **Relations with France:-** In accordance with Quadruple Alliance of 1834 (England, Spain, Portugal, France) England wanted to have good relations with France. But Palmerston made them angry due to not giving any share in Beligum and opposing their influence in Turkey.

War with China:- Many English traders had settled in China and they dealt in opium. The Chinese manhandled not only the traders but also the British agent. Palmerston declared a war against China in 1840 (Opium War) which ended at Treaty

Scanned with CamScanner

of Nanking. Hongkong was given to the British.
In 1856, Palmerston had to wage another war against China because they did not allow the English Traders to trade in accordance with the Treaty of Nanking

7) **Unification of Italy:-** It had been divided into many small states and were under Pope, Austria and local rulers. Palmerston helped a lot in the unification of Italy.

Palmerston as a Prime Minister:-

1) ~~1855~~ 1855-58 2) 1859-1865

1) **The Eastern Question:-** In 19th century, there started a struggle between Turkey and her Christian colonies, known as "Eastern Question". In 1853, when the Czar of Russia ordered his forces to attack Turkey, England and France began their efforts to minimize the Russian influence in the Black Sea. The allied armies defeated Russia in 1855 and war came to an end in 1856 by the Treaty of Paris which enhanced the glory of England.

2) **The Indian Mutiny of 1857:-** at various places such as Delhi, Lucknow, Kanpur etc.

3) **American Civil War, 1861-65:-** Started between northern (agriculturists and industrialists) and southern (landlords) states. The southern states wanted to separate from the northern states as Abraham Lincoln was elected President of America and an opponent of slavery. England sided with southern states. This matter was decided during the period of Gladstone's PMship when

Scanned with CamScanner

England paid 8 million pounds as indemnity to USA.

5) The Polish Rebellion, 1863:- The Polish public raised rebellion against Russia and Palmerston encouraged the Polish public but could not save them from being crushed.

Palmerston was Conservative at home but Liberal around abroad:-

→ English interests: he was against reforms, democratic ideas and freedom

→ English interests are not involved: reformist, constitutionalist and democrate.

A) Palmerston was conservative or reactionary at home:-

1) Opponent of Parliamentary Reforms:- First Reform Act 1832 and Second Reform Act in 1867.

2) No exemption of duty on imported paper:-

3) Opponent of political independence:- Indian Independence War in 1857 ruthlessly suppressed.

4) Indifference to Ireland:- The proposals to improve their lot were turned down by Palmerston.

B) Palmerston was Liberal abroad:-

1) Independence of Belgium, 1830-31:- He helped Belgium to get independence from France.

2) End of Despotic rule in Spain and Portugal:-

3) Unification of Italy:-

4) The Polish Rebellion:- against Russia.

Scanned with CamScanner

The Methodist Movement

In the 18th century, there rose a movement in England against the spiritual and social degradation.

Reasons which brought about the Methodist Movement:-

1) Bad social conditions:- The people became devoted to luxuries, glamour, artificiality, immorality and drunkenness having wealth due to Industrial Revolution.

2) Evils in the church of England:- Priests and bishops started ~~devotion~~ remaining busy in luxuries and religion's faith, devotion and attachment started vanishing. The bishops began to fill bags of money by hook or by crook.

Organisers of the Methodist Movement:-

1) John Wesley:- was a very religious minded person and a philanthropist. In London, he organised the first Methodist Society. He started his religious precepts in each and every city and village. He wrote many books and booklets to explain the main principles of the Methodist Movement.

2) Charles Wesley:- brother of John Wesley. He composed many devotional songs.

3) George Whitefield:- was a skilled orator and preacher.

Preachings of the Methodists:-

→ Do all the good you can in all the ways, places, times and to all people.

Scanned with CamScanner

Effects of the Methodist Movement:-

1) Good effects:-

i) Moral upliftment:-

ii) Reforming the poor:-

iii) Incentive to reform the society:-

iv) Birth of Evangelican Movement:- This movement laid stress on good deeds and preached that he might enjoy the happiness of paradise after death.

v) Foundation of the New Sect:- people of the church of England went on drifting against John Wesley. Thus the Methodists were believed to belong to a new sect.

vi) Reforming the Church of England:- John Wesley restored Christianity to its place as living force in the personal creed of men.

2) Bad effects:-

i) Dull life:- The methodists were against all kinds of entertainment except music.

ii) Based on fear:- John Wesley made decisions by opening Bible at random and obeying whatever command he might discover at first sight.

Scanned with CamScanner